

WELCOME TO
STAHL MENNONITE CHURCH

1201 Soap Hollow Rd, Johnstown, PA 15905

Pastor: Jayne Byler

Lay Leaders: Sonya Horsley, Joy Cotchen, Neil Lehman

Pastor Cell Phone: (330) 224-3944

Church Phone: (814) 288-5523

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November 19, 2023

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:30 A.M.

Theme: “Participating in God’s Family”

Worship Leader: Pat Cotchen

Music: Stahl Musicians

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Gathering Song: “Brethren we have met to worship” – VT 25

Call to Worship:

The spirit of God calls us from many places;
some of us come from busy homes with many people
some of us live alone.

We are a part of the family.

This week has been different for each of us;
some of us have had happy news we want to celebrate
some of us have faced grief and need to cry.
We are members of God’s family.

Yet we all come to this same place;
all of us seeking God’s presence in our lives
all of us seeking God’s presence with each other.
Together we become God’s family.

~ Re-worship.com

Opening Prayer

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns: “*God of Love, Hear our Prayer*”

Singing: “Faith of our martyrs” – VT 575

Focus Moment: “The Crooked Tree” – by Esther Bender

Scripture: John 17:22-26

Sitting with the Scripture:

*Take a moment to sit in silent reflection of what has just been read.
Let the words and the Spirit settle in your being.*

Message: “I’ve Got All My Sisters with Me!” – Jayne

Response: (congregation reads in unison)

Lord, at times you call us to step ahead...
you ask us to pave a way with our own footsteps,
to move with you, in your way, in your time.

Help us to know that you tread the path with us,
and though we may be fearful
and our steps may be reluctant and faltering,
it is enough that we take one step at a time.

So, Lord we commit this week to you,
and the places we will go,
trusting that you go beside us each day,
wherever we may find ourselves.
In Jesus’ name, Amen

~ written by Dave Hopwood

Sending Song: “Called or not called, God is there” – VT 422

Sending Words

Bulletin Editor for November: Ellen Lehman – (814) 288-1961

Front Table for November: Sonya Horsley

Outdoor Sign for November:

St. Francis Sharing & Caring Item for November: Toilet Paper

Offering: 11/12/2023 – \$ 3,673.70 – General Fund

100.00 – MEDA

100.00 – MDS

102.00 – Highland Clinic

\$3,975.70 = TOTAL

Stahl Mennonite Church

November 19, 2023

*****COMING EVENTS*****

November Mission Offering: Highlands Health Clinic

Wed., Nov. 22, 4:30-6:30 pm: NO Soup Night

Thur., Nov 23: “Happy Thanksgiving!”

Wed., Nov 29, 6:30 pm: Advent for All! Small Group Adventure for all ages,

Tues., Dec. 12, 4:00 pm: Vision Team

Tues., Dec. 12, 6:30 pm: Church Council

Sun., Dec. 24, 11:00 pm: Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Service

*****NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS*****

Happy Birthday: Wish the following a Happy Birthday today or by sending them a card this week: Mon., Nov. 20 – Ryan Kaltreider; Mon., Nov. 20 – William (Ed) Mackel; Wed., Nov. 22 – Ezra Lehman

Jayne hopes to be in the office on Mon. and Wed. She will be off on Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday. She can be contacted at any time by calling or texting 330-224-3944 or emailing stahlmennonite@gmail.com.

Hearing assistance headphones are available at the back of the sanctuary.

If you have a large nativity set that you are willing to share on the front table for Advent, please let Jayne know.



“I’m in them and you are in me so that they will be made perfectly one.”

John 17:23

Forms to volunteer or suggest someone for a position in the congregation for 2024, are being distributed today. Please take a look at the positions that are open for the coming year and consider whether you might be willing to step into one. Or, perhaps you have someone in mind to suggest who is gifted in one of these areas. They are due back to the Personnel Committee (Shana Lichtenfels or Joyce Telenko) by Dec. 3rd. Thanks!

Don't forget about the **Activity Table located in the back of the sanctuary, just under the nursery windows.** There are supplies there for children as well as other creative folks to use to help engage the morning worship with paper, color, or other art supplies. Anyone of any age is welcome to see what is there to enhance your worship. Please return any unused supplies to the table after worship ends.

Our November Mission Offering is the Highlands Health Clinic. The mission of Highlands Health is to provide free and charitable medical, pharmaceutical and wellness care to the low income, uninsured and under-insured in the Laurel Highlands region of Western PA using volunteer professional staff. It is the intention of the Highlands Health to help those who are making a sincere effort to help themselves and their families.

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia to be displayed in the church for the Christmas Season, please contact Joyce Telenko at 814-322-2932 by **NEXT Sunday, Nov. 26th**. Price for either a red and/or white poinsettia is \$12 each. Thanks!

Vision Team met and would like your direction. On the table beside the bulletins is a survey asking to help determine which direction we might go. Please take a look and note your preference and put the completed survey in the box beside. Thanks!

Beginning Nov. 29 you can participate in ADVENT FOR ALL, a four-week small group adventure for all ages. Each week you will be invited to bring some item from home to help focus on the theme, using the four Advent candles of hope, peace, joy and love. Stay tuned for what to bring each week. Prepare for Christmas with this time of gathering to share, read scripture and light the Advent candles. The first one will be Next Sunday, Nov. 29. The theme is **“Hope”**. Bring along a Christmas ornament or decoration that symbolizes the hope of Christmas.

LIVE Nativity will be returning this year! The two evenings will be: Friday, December 8 from 5-8 PM & Saturday, December 9, 2023 from 2-8 PM. We would like to ask you to begin planning what goodies you could make for our Market Place Foods table. No packaging is needed - we will handle that! We will be especially in need of your delicious cookies, gobs, candies, breads, beautiful cakes & pies...and even snack mixes! People love our homemade goodies, so please contact Trish Leverknight with any questions or to let her know what you can contribute!! E-mail: patricialeverknight@gmail.com or Phone: 814-288-2425.

Huge gratitude for the continued faithful financial giving to the work of this congregation. Electronic giving has proven to be a helpful way to continue regular offerings, even if you are unable to be here in person. See our website to get started if you haven't used this yet. (Remember that you can cover the cost of processing the donation as well.) As always, you are also welcome to give through the Sunday morning offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. Without the continued sharing of your gifts, financial or in your participation among us, this congregation would not continue.

Covid numbers are rising again. If you feel more comfortable masking to avoid possible exposure, please feel free to do so. We can all support one another in our efforts to remain healthy.

***** **PRAYER REQUESTS*******

Sonya Horsley's Co-Worker	Cara (Lichtenfels) Lovenduski
Dan & Deb Gates	Riley Allen Gerry Fix
Dan's Mom & Family	Lydia Lehman Shelly Kerchner
Abe Lehman & Family	Merle McDaniel
Gaza/Israel War in Middle East	Frank Gindlesperger Family (death)